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**Notice of Proposed Selection of Remedy**  
for  
**International Creosoting**  
as published in the  
***Texas Register***  
(23 TexReg 11246)  
on  
**October 30, 1998**

A portion of the records for this site, including documents  
pertinent to the TNRCC selection of remedy, is available  
for viewing with the site repository records

at  
**Beaumont Public Library**  
**801 Pearl Street**  
**Beaumont, Texas**  
and/or  
**TNRCC Records Management Center**  
**Austin, Texas**

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## Notice of Proposed Selection of Remedy

The executive director of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC or the Commission) is issuing this public notice of the selection of a proposed remedial action for the Land-based Operable Unit (LBOU) of the International Creosoting state Superfund site. In accordance with the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 361.187 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, concerning the proposed remedial action, a public meeting regarding the TNRCC's selection of a proposed remedial action for the International Creosoting LBOU state Superfund site shall be held. The statute requires that the Commission shall publish notice of the meeting in the *Texas Register* and in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located at least 30 days before the date of the public meeting. This notice will be published in the October 30, 1998, issue of the *Texas Register* and the *Beaumont Enterprise*.

The public meeting is scheduled at the Beaumont Independent School District Administration Building Board Room, located at 3395 Harrison Avenue in Beaumont on Tuesday, December 1, 1998, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The public meeting will be legislative in nature and is not a contested case hearing under the Texas Government Code 2001.

Contemporaneously with this notice, the executive director hereby makes available to all interested parties the public records the TNRCC has regarding the facility. A portion of the records for this site, including documents pertinent to the proposed remedy, is available for review during regular business hours at the Beaumont Public Library, 801 Pearl Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701. Copies of the complete public record file may be obtained during business hours at the TNRCC, Central Records Center, Building D, North Entrance, Room 190, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, Texas 78753, telephone (512) 239-2920. Photocopying of file information is subject to payment of a fee. A brief summary of those public records follows.

The site for which a remedy is being proposed, the LBOU of the International Creosoting state Superfund site, was proposed for listing on the state registry of Superfund sites in the November 15, 1988, edition of the *Texas Register* (13 TexReg 5791). After a public meeting at which the site was proposed for listing, it was added to the state Superfund registry on March 31, 1989. In 1996, the site was split into two operable units, one was the 14.7 acres of the Land-based Operable Unit (LBOU) and the other was comprised of Brakes Bayou in the vicinity of the site, the Bayou-based Operable Unit (BBOU). The operable units were created to expedite completion of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) process for the LBOU, the remedy for which is being proposed.

The International Creosoting state Superfund site is located at 1110 Pine Street in Beaumont, Texas at the intersection of Pine Street and Interstate Highway I-10. The site was used for wood-treatment operations from 1898 to 1973. The facility was purchased by Moss-American Corporation, a subsidiary of Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation in 1969. Documentation exists that both creosote and creosote mixed with pentachlorophenol were used in wood treatment operations at the site. The wood-treatment operations ended in November 1973, when Moss-American sold the property to Keown Contracting Company.

Keown Contracting Company operated an asphaltic ready-mix concrete production facility on the LBOU. Keown Supply Company bought the property from Keown Contracting Company in 1979 and continued these operations. Asphalt and aggregate/granular materials (e.g., sand, rock, shell, cement) were used at the site until 1987.

In 1981, Moss-American notified the EPA, as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), that hazardous waste had been handled and disposed of in a surface impoundment (stabilization pond) used to separate creosote and wastewater. Moss-American estimated that this waste impoundment had been used to store/dispose of waste from 1920 to 1973. Subsequent investigations performed by the Texas Water Commission (predecessor agency of the TNRCC) and private entities established that surface soils, subsurface soils, and groundwater had been impacted by creosote and asphalt constituents.

In 1990, Kerr-McGee Chemical Company, now Kerr-McGee Chemical LLC (KMC), entered into an Agreed Order with the Texas Water Commission to complete the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the site. In 1992, KMC completed decommissioning/demolishing most of the remaining structures at the site, disposing of debris and some waste materials left at the surface, and consolidating other waste materials. From 1990 to 1998, KMC completed a Remedial Investigation, Baseline Risk Assessment, and Feasibility Study for the LBOU. The Remedial Investigation results indicate that the site is contaminated with free-phase creosote, semivolatile organic compounds (which are constituents of creosote and asphalt), volatile organic compounds, and several metals (arsenic, chromium, mercury, and lead). The Baseline Risk Assessment concluded that these contaminants are present at concentrations that pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment if no remedial actions are performed. Therefore, further action is needed to eliminate any imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment from the contamination at the site.

KMC completed the Feasibility Study and a Capping Technical Memorandum for the LBOU in July and August 1998. These documents were approved by the TNRCC in August and September of 1998. The TNRCC prepared the Proposed Remedial Action Document in October 1998. This document presents the proposed remedy and justification for how this remedy demonstrates compliance with the relevant cleanup standards.

Based on the large calculated volume of contaminated soil and groundwater in the LBOU, the recommended remedial alternative from the TNRCC's Presumptive Remedies Guidance for Soils at Texas State Superfund Sites is on-site containment. This containment will be achieved by: (1) installing a slurry wall around the perimeter of most of the LBOU to a depth of approximately 50 feet below ground surface to prevent migration of contaminants; (2) recovering groundwater and creosote from behind the slurry wall barrier; and (3) installing a cap over surface soils that exceed acceptable risk levels to protect human and ecological receptors from unacceptable concentrations of contaminated material. In addition, a small area of groundwater contamination at the site outside of the area proposed for containment needs to be remediated. The recommended remedial action for this area is pumping and treating the groundwater. The recommended combined remedial actions are the most cost effective, reasonable and appropriate remedies to address the contamination present.

Persons desiring to make comments on the proposed remedial actions or the identification of potentially responsible parties may do so at the meeting or in writing prior to the public meeting. Written comments may be submitted to Dr. Nell Tyner, Project Manager, TNRCC, Remediation Division, MC 143, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. All comments must be received by the close of the public meeting on December 1, 1998.

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